

Native Pasture Resource Management System (RMS)
 MLRA 131 - Southern Mississippi Valley Alluvium

Field Office

Existing Conditions: This area consists of 500 acres of native pasture which is in continuous use. Lack of interior fences has contributed to poor grazing distribution and spot grazing. Plant vigor is low. Broomsedge bluestem and dogfennel are replacing common bermudagrass in overused areas. Carpetgrass has become the dominant plant in overused areas. Heavy flush of growth in summer results in vegetation getting ahead of cattle and becoming rank.

Livestock are contributing to streambank erosion during watershed and grazing. Canal on neighboring property is receiving downstream sediment deposition from streambank erosion. Suitable habitat for quail is a concern. Chinese tallow trees are encroaching into pastureland. Hay quality is poor, and feed bill is high from purchasing additional hay and protein supplement.

Existing Conditions

Option I

Option 1: Grazing management will consist of a six pasture, one herd planned grazing system. A two stand electric fence will be used to separate the area into pastures. The canal banks will be fenced. Cattle will be allowed access to canal water periodically through gates in fence. Lanes from each pasture leading to two water sources will be constructed. Herbicide control of weeds will be accomplished using a wick applicator. Chinese Tallow trees will be controlled with ground applied herbicides. Ryegrass will be broadcast seeded with minimum tillage in top two pastures to offset protein supplementation in winter/early spring.

Express the effects of the selected practices as N/A, if not applicable; F = facilitating; 0 = no effect; + = positive effect; and - = negative effect.

<div>Resource Problems</div> <div>RMS Options</div>	Soil			Water		Air	Plant					Animal - Domestic						Animal -Wildlife		
	Erosion	Condition	Deposition	Quality	Quantity	Quality	Condition		Management			Habitat				Management		Habitat		Mgmt.
	Streambank	Soil Compaction	Offsite Sediment Damage	Suspended Sediments/ Turbidity	Aquatic Habitat Suitability	Airborne Drift	Suitability	Productivity	Establishment, Growth, & Harvest	Nutrient Management	Pest Management	Food		Water		Population Resource Balance	Animal Health	Food	Cover	Population Resource Balance
												Quality - Cattle	Quantity - Cattle	Quality - Cattle	Quantity- Cattle		Parasites	Quail	Quail	
Quality Criteria Met	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Prescribed Grazing	+	+	+	+	+	N/A	N/A	+	+	+	+	+	+	N/A	N/A	+	+	+	+	+
Pasture and Hay Planting	+	+	+	+	+	N/A	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	N/A	N/A	+	+	+	+	+
Nutrient Management	+	+	+	+	+	+	N/A	+	+	+	+	+	+	N/A	+	+	+	+	+	+
Brush Management	+	+	+	+	+	+	F	+	+	+	+	+	+	N/A	+	+	+	+	+	+
Fence	F	F	F	F	F	N/A	N/A	F	F	F	F	F	F	N/A	+	F	F	F	F	F
Pipeline	N/A	F	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	F	F	F	F	F	F	+	+	F	F	F	F	F
Watering Facilities	N/A	F	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	F	F	F	F	F	F	+	+	F	F	F	F	F
Steambank and Shoreline Protection	+	0	+	+	+	N/A	N/A	+	+	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	-	+	N/A	+	+	+	+
Prescribed Grazing	+	+	+	+	+	N/A	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+

* Pasture management, pasture planting, and nutrient management refer only to the pastures that are planted to ryegrass. The land use for these pastures is pastureland. The land use for the remaining pastures is native pasture.

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Option II: Grazing management will consist of a 10 pasture, one herd planned grazing system. Electric fence will be utilized to separate pastures. Pipelines and troughs will be installed to provide water to bottom 8 pastures. Electric fence will be installed to separate ryegrass into 5 subunits and one lane along canal bank. Ryegrass will be broadcast seeded with minimum tillage in these pastures to offset protein supplementation in winter/early spring. Herbicide control of weeds will be accomplished using a wick applicator. Chinese Tallow trees will be controlled with ground applied herbicides.

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[illegible]

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Option III: Grazing management will consist of deferred grazing through 3 pastures. Pipelines and troughs will be installed to provide alternative water sources south of the canal. One four strand barbed wire fence will be constructed from the canal south to the property fence. A gate will be constructed which crosses the road north of the canal. Herbicide control of weeds will be accomplished using a wick applicator. Chinese Tallow trees will be controlled with ground applied herbicides. Ryegrass will be broadcast seeded with minimum tillage in top two pastures to offset protein supplementation in winter/early spring.

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<div>Resource Problems</div> <div>RMS Options</div>	Soil			Water		Air	Plant					Animal - Domestic						Animal -Wildlife		
	Erosion	Condition	Deposition	Quality		Quality	Condition		Management			Habitat				Management		Habitat	Mgmt.	
	Streambank	Soil Compaction	Offsite Sediment Drainage	Suspended Sediments/ Turbidity	Aquatic Habitat Suitability	Airborne Drift	Suitability	Productivity	Establishment, Growth, & Harvest	Nutrient Management	Pest Management	Food		Water		Population Resource Balance	Animal Health	Food	Cover	Population Resource Balance
												Quality - Cattle	Quantity - Cattle	Quality - Cattle	Quantity - Cattle		Parasites	Quail	Quail	
Quality Criteria Met	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Pasture & Hay Planting																				
Ryegrass	+	+	+	+	+	N/A	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	N/A	N/A	+	+	+	+	+
Nutrient Management	+	+	+	+	+	+	N/A	+	+	+	+	+	+	N/A	+	+	+	+	+	+
Brush Management	+	+	+	+	+	+	F	+	+	+	+	+	+	N/A	+	+	+	+	+	+
Fence	F	F	F	F	F	N/A	N/A	F	F	F	F	F	F	N/A	+	F	F	F	F	F
Pipeline	F	F	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	F	F	F	F	F	F	+	+	F	F	F	F	F
Water Facility	F	F	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	F	F	F	F	F	F	+	+	F	F	F	F	F
Prescribed Grazing	+	+	+	+	+	N/A	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+

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